

12 april 1999

dr. michael friedman,

1004-99 APR 28 P2 05
i am writing in regards to the lack of labeling on foods that have been genetically engineered. there are many reasons why labeling is important. personally, it is very important because i have food allergies and I have strong religious and ethical beliefs concerning the use and consumption of animals. i am a strict vegetarian and without labeling i could very well be consuming animals. labeling would ensure that I could make well informed decisions about what I was using and consuming. labeling would also ensure that i would not become severely ill if i unknowingly consumed a product to which i was allergic.

labeling is important for the public because in the case of health problems caused by genetically altered food, officials would be able to trace the cause. this was the case in 1989, with the outbreak of eosinophilia myalgia syndrome linked with a genetically engineered brand of amino acid supplement l-tryptophan.

i would be interested in what your stand is in regards to this issue. it is of utmost importance to myself and many of my fellow americans.

sincerely,

Laura a buss

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